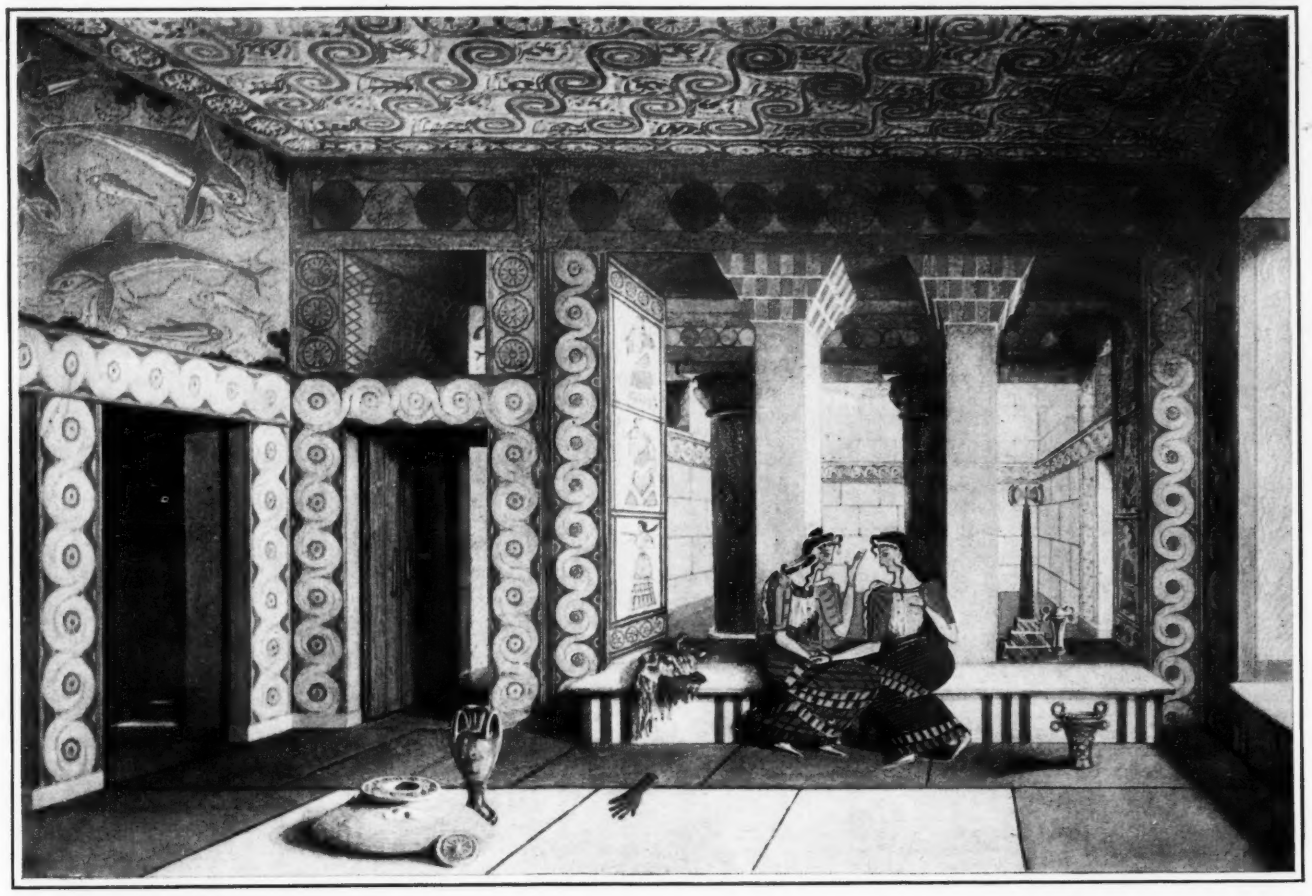
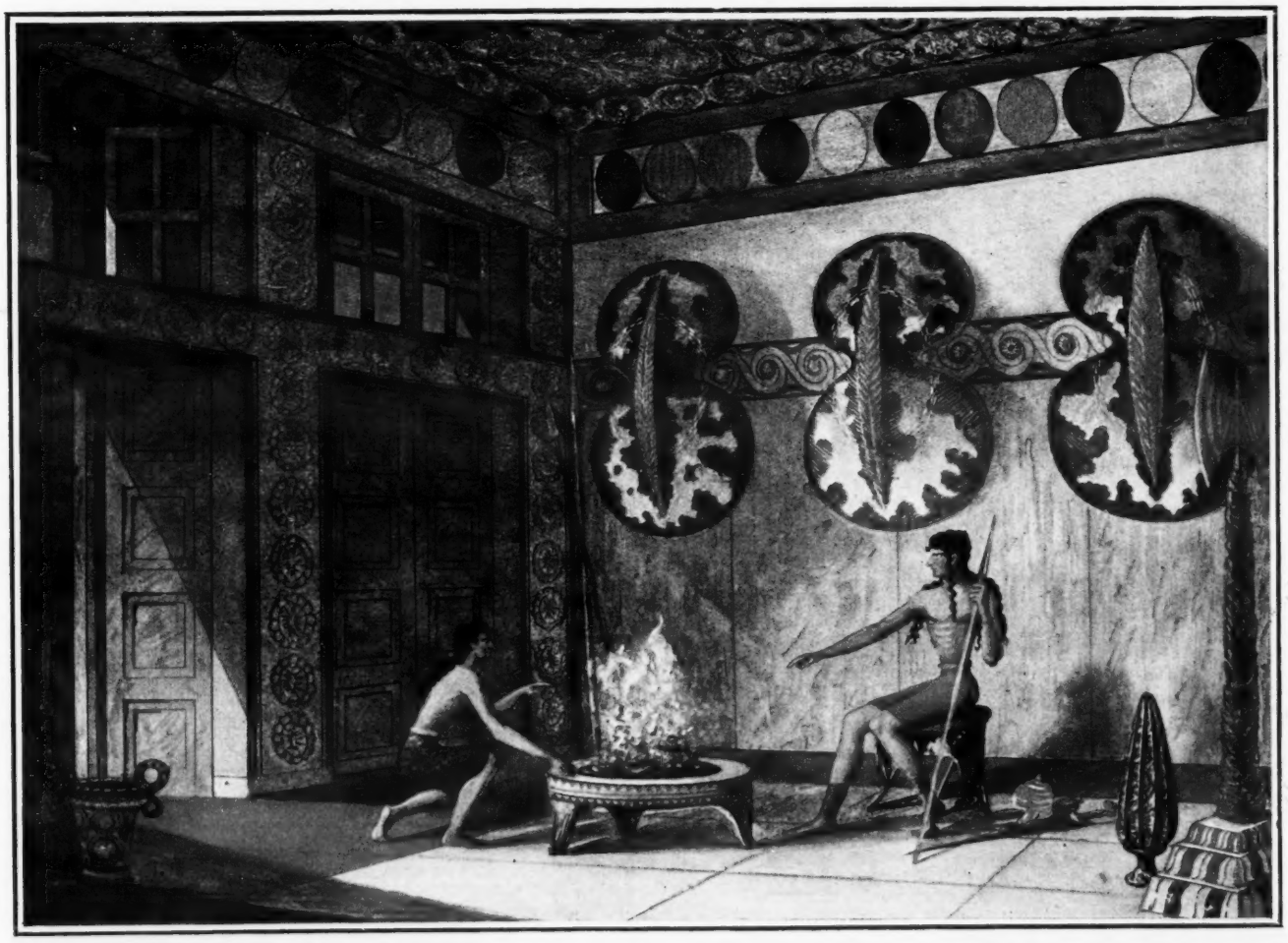
Splendours of the Minoan Palace: "Conversation" Scenes.

"Restoration" Drawings Reproduced from "The Palace of Minos." By Sir Arthur Evans. By Courtesy of the Publishers, Messrs. Macmillan.



"SOCIAL AMENITIES HARD TO PARALLEL IN THE ANCIENT WORLD": A RESTORED VIEW OF THE QUEEN'S MEGARON IN THE PALACE OF MINOS WITH DOORWAY LEADING TO EAST SECTION AND LIGHT-WELL BEYOND; (TO RIGHT) WINDOW; (TO LEFT) STAIRS TO UPPER "THALAMOS."



HERE, IN THE MOST PRIVATE PORTION OF THE GREAT HALL IN THE PALACE AT KNOSSOS, THE MINOAN LORD IS SEEN SEATED AT EASE, AND WARMING HIS HANDS AT A MOVABLE HEARTH: A RESTORED VIEW OF THE INNER SECTION OF THE "HALL OF DOUBLE AXES."

Describing the Palace of Minos at Knossos, Sir Arthur Evans writes: "The Queen's Megaron—the centre of the women's domain—calls up a vision of social life and amenities such as it would be hard to parallel in the ancient world. . . . In this ideal sketch, an attempt is made to reproduce its general appearance, and something of the life within it."

Of the lower illustration of the Great Hall, he writes: "The coloured plate has been artistically executed in accordance with my suggestions, and reproduces the effect of its splendid equipment of great body-shields suspended on the wall, as in the Megaron of Odysseus. Here the Minoan Lord is seen seated at ease on his stool."

The Famous Snake Park at Port Elizabeth: One

PAINTED SPECIALLY FOR "THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON

WITH A FESTOON OF COILING SERPENTS IN EACH HAND: JOHANNES, THEIR BASUTO KEEPER, IN

The Snake Park at Port Elizabeth is quite one of the most interesting institutions in South Africa. It houses many species of snakes, from the smallest and most venomous to the large and sluggish python. The able Director of this Museum and Snake Park, Mr. F. W. Fitzsimons, has conducted some very notable research into the effects of snake bites and their cures. He has also succeeded in applying snake venom for the cure of certain diseases, and, during the last visit of the British Association to South Africa he delivered an interesting paper on these subjects. His new book, "Pythons and Their Ways" (Harrap), which gives an entertaining account of life at the Snake Park, was reviewed in our pages a few weeks ago. The snakes in the Park are housed in a protected area considerably below ground level, flanked by a three-foot moat and straight walls which prevent the reptiles from escaping. In this enclosure they have ample room for free movement and the indulgence of their ordinary habits. They are cared for in every detail, and the Snake

e of the Most Fascinating Sights in South Africa.

ONDON NEWS" BY C. E. TURNER. (COPYRIGHTED.)

, IN THE PORT ELIZABETH SNAKE PARK, WHERE VALUABLE RESEARCH WORK HAS BEEN DONE.

Park attendant, Johannes, is probably unrivalled in his job. The ordinary beholder, with his natural horror of snakes, watches Johannes in his apparently careless and assured handling of these creatures with a sort of fascinated horror, particularly when he permits the reptiles to festoon themselves around his arms and body. For all its picturesque side, the Snake Park has serious scientific uses. So far as the public is concerned, the reptiles can be viewed with complete safety, and the Park is one of the interests of Port Elizabeth which no visitor to this city should miss. The only other Snake and Reptile Park comparable with that of Port Elizabeth is the equally famous one at Sao Paulo, in Brazil. The presence of the Snake Park in Port Elizabeth may suggest to the reader in Europe that South Africa is a land teeming with snakes and reptiles, but this is quite misleading. Most species of the reptilian world can be found in South Africa, but, with the rapid growth of urban areas and communications, the snake is a comparative rarity in the settled parts of this Dominion.

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